might be materialized by means of a slightly different sort of symbolism.

The book does not attempt to give a completely exhaustive account of the subject of functions of curves. It omits notable researches by Hadamard, Levy, Fréchet, and confines itself rather closely to the personal researches of the author, who is of course the inventor of their analysis and the principal source of its development. But if it lacks consideration of some of the possible branches, it makes up for the omission by possessing the artistic quality which is characteristic of unified original work. Moreover, the reader will continually find references to theoretical physics and other branches of mathematics, which, besides illuminating profoundly the matter in hand, testify to a not common comprehensiveness of thought on the part of the author.

G. C. Evans

The Essence of Astronomy. By Edward W. Price. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1914. Pp. xiv + 207. Illustrated.

The Century Dictionary defines *essence* as being the inward nature, true substance, or constitution of anything. From the title of Mr. Price's book, therefore, one would expect to find something of the inward nature of the solar system, or true substance of the stellar universe, some hint as to the underlying causes and formations of the heavens. But one who opens the book with such expectations will be most grievously disappointed, for the work is but a compilation of the simplest statistical facts; facts which have been compiled and written about over and over again. Further, the book contains some strange and new conceptions: to classify the milky way as a freak, and double and variable stars as oddities, is certainly new, and such classification, itself, might even be called odd and freakish.

The book is well made mechanically, well printed, with clear and beautiful illustrations, but otherwise it is one of dozens of similar crude compilations.

Chas. Lane Poor

An Introduction to General Psychology. By Robert Morris Ogden. Longmans, Green and Co., 1914. Pp. xviii + 270.

Professor Ogden's text-book is the outcome of a definite abandonment of the purely sensationalistic conception of psychology. Dr. Ogden defines his science as "the study of mental happenings." He treats not merely of "mental contents" and their physical conditions, but also of the "mental activities" which constitute what he rather vaguely calls the "purposive aspect" of mental happenings. As elements of mental contents Dr. Ogden enumerates sensations, images, thoughts—which he classifies as notions or relations—and affections. Attention, memory, perception, ideation, emotion and reaction are brought together under the heading "The Synthetic Facts of Mind." The concluding section of the book contains chapters on "mind and body," "personality" and "character." In the last of these chapters Mr. Ogden suggests the relation of psychology to logic, to esthetics, to ethics and to religion. Under the second heading he discusses mainly sleep, dreams, hypnosis, multiple personality and insanity. Not all teachers—it may be noted—will approve the inclusion of the topics just named in a book of fewer than 300 pages; and many will regret the brevity with which all topics are treated and the omission of "all diagrams, references to literature and practical demonstrations."

The writer of this notice is glad to find Professor Ogden in substantial agreement with Herbert Spencer, William James, Binet, Meinong, the Würzburg school, and with several recent American writers in his view that thought-elements as well as sensational and affective elements, should be explicitly acknowledged in a text-book of psychology; and she welcomes also his repeated descriptions of consciousness—the relating consciousness (pp. 14 ff.), affection (pp. 85 ff.) and will (pp. 171 f.)—in terms of the self who is conscious. Occasional artificial constructions and a certain vagueness in the use of the term "mental activity" might indeed have been avoided, had this natural and inevitable point of view been more steadily held.